

10/676,612

H0421/AMDP954US

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 7, 8, and 15-20 are withdrawn and claim 2 has been amended as shown on pp. 4-7 of the Reply. Applicants' representative acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner indicating claims 1-6 and 9-14 as allowable. In addition, the specification has been amended as indicated on pp. 2-3.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Rejection of Claim 2 Under 35 U.S.C §112

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, due to existence of minor informalities therein. Claim 2 has been amended to cure such informalities; therefore, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [AMDP954US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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